

European centre for creative economy



The European Centre for Creative Economy (ecce) is responsible for further developing the cultural and creative industries in the Ruhr area. In this context, the institute develops relevant structures and project scenarios at regional and European level to support cross-industrial and cross-sectoral cooperation. ecce is highly committed to directly supporting actors from the cultural and creative economy as well as the development of creative locations and spaces. In addition, ecce is actively involved in the debate on the cultural and creative industries in the Ruhr area and in Europe.



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as of December 2014



Creative.Quarters Ruhr

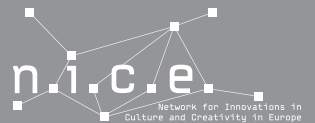


Culture, creativity and the economy need freedom for development. Relocating and networking of culture and the creative industries is essential for the future of the Ruhr area: to invite creative and cultural professionals to unleash creative and economic potential in this area. On the initiative of RUHR.2010 and ecce, regional artists, creative professionals, heads of cultural affairs and business developers met in 2009 to come up with a concept to promote cultural ideas to support structural change in the Ruhr area.

In 2012, this concept was turned into the Creative.Quarters Ruhr promotion programme. On the basis of a joint quarter strategy developed by partners from the fields of art, culture, the creative economy and regional administration, concepts and projects are turned into visible changes in urban space, which, in turn, become the basis for economic processes.

Within the framework of the Creative.Quarters Ruhr project, ecce advises regional partners on developing new strategies and researches creative spaces in the Ruhr area and in Europe.

EU-Activities



One of the main tasks of ecce is to establish and maintain European networks in the cultural and creative industries of the Ruhr area and to advise regional and municipal partners on applying for European funding.

The Network for Innovations in Culture and Creativity in Europe (N.I.C.E.) initiated by ecce in 2013 is a platform for all players of the cultural and creative industries aiming at the promotion of effective innovations in the cultural and creative sectors – with the help of new, Europe-wide tools and services. One initiative of the network is the N.I.C.E. Award for cultural innovations in Europe.

In 2012, ecce became a member of the European Creative Business Network (ECBN) with the aim to improve the framework conditions for transnational exchange within the creative economy in Europe.

In addition, ecce establishes long-term alliances with other regions in Europe.

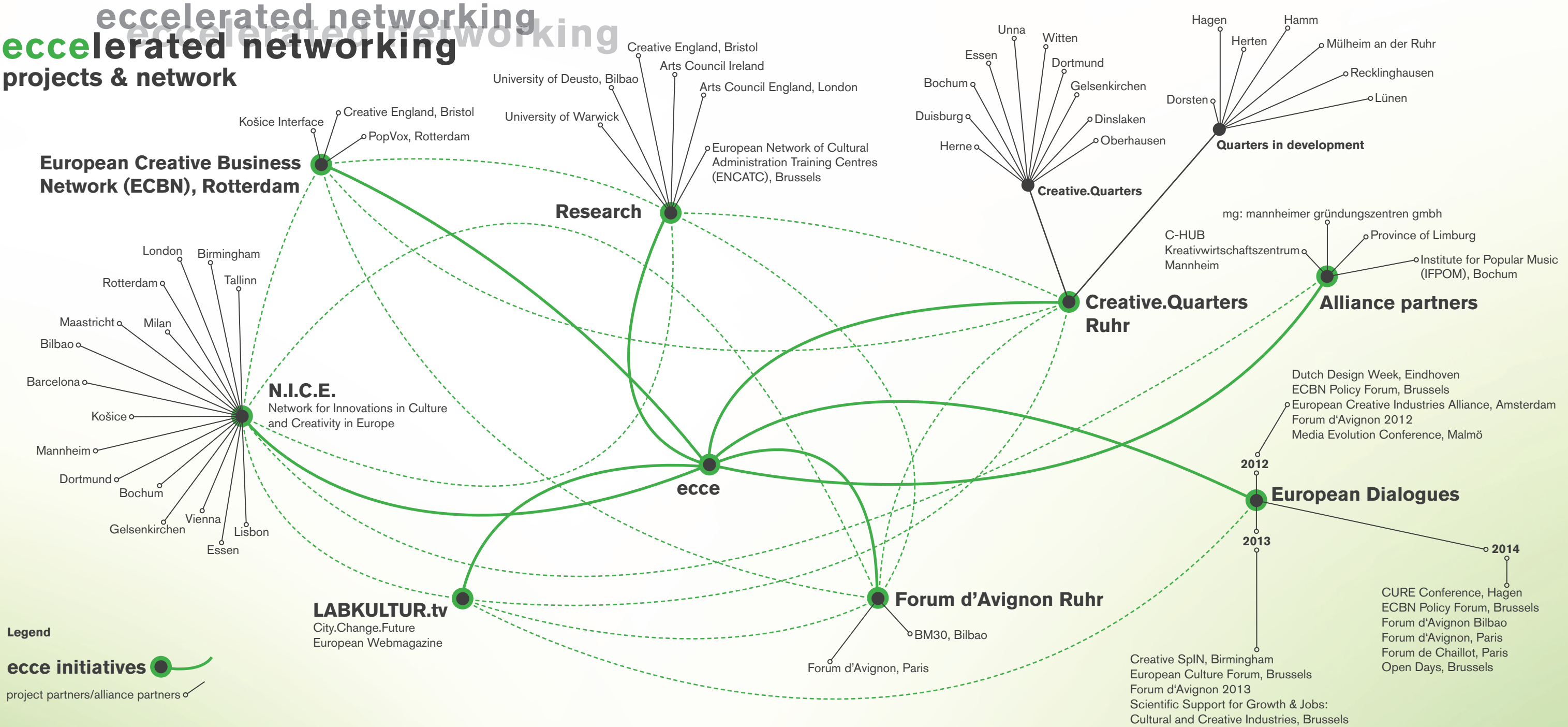
Forum d'Avignon Ruhr



The Forum d'Avignon Ruhr is based on a French-German partnership between the Forum d'Avignon and ecce. The aim of the Forum d'Avignon is to culturally contribute to future-oriented policies by bringing together Europe's business leaders, movers and shakers from the economy, politics, science, and culture.

Since 2012, ecce organises the annual Forum d'Avignon Ruhr in Essen to discuss the interaction between cultural, political, economic and social topics. The Forum d'Avignon Ruhr is a platform for debate for regional and Europe-wide discourses, while at the same time it is a meeting point for networks such as N.I.C.E., ECBN and the Creative.Quarters Ruhr. Moreover, it is a generator for innovation and the interface between the actors of different sectors. The programme includes scientific discourses as well as practical experiences: in 2013, a study on spillover effects in culture and the creative industry was carried out in the Ruhr area; in 2014, the N.I.C.E. exhibition on innovative cultural and creative-economic projects took place.

eccecelerated networking
projects & network



Legend

ecce initiatives ●

project partners/alliance partners ○

Research
Research

ecce is actively involved in the evaluation of ongoing projects and in research activities on current, culture-related and creative-economic debates. In this context and on the occasion of the Forum d'Avignon Ruhr 2013, ecce carried out a research project on spillover effects in the Ruhr area. Since then, ecce also strives for international research cooperation projects on spillover effects in the fields of culture and the creative economy at European level and launched the research project "Preliminary Evidence for Spillover Effects in Europe" in cooperation with, amongst others, Arts Council England, Arts Council Ireland, Creative England and ECBN; ecce also entered into cooperation with the University of Warwick, UK, and the University of Deusto, Spain.

Facts
Facts & figures

The joint committee of the economics ministers of the German federal states coined the uniform terminology of the cultural and creative economy in Germany in 2009. It encompasses the following eleven economic sectors: the music industry, the book market, the art market, the film industry, the broadcasting industry, the performing arts, the design industry, the architecture market, the press market, the advertising market, as well as the software/games industry. With a sales volume of 145 billion euros, the creative industry added a share of 2.36% to the German economy in 2013. 249,000 companies of the cultural and creative industries employ a total of approx. 1 million persons in Germany. All in all, 1.6 million people are employed in this sector. In 2011, about 50,000 companies with 315,000 employees and a turnover of 36 billion euros actively contributed to the cultural and creative economy in North Rhine-Westphalia.

{Sources: Monitoring zu ausgewählten wirtschaftlichen Eckdaten der Kultur- und Kreativwirtschaft 2013. BMWi (Hrsg.) 2014. Kreativ-Report NRW. Ökonomische Bedeutung und Potenziale der Kultur- und Kreativwirtschaft in Nordrhein-Westfalen. MWEIMH NRW (Hrsg. 2012).}

Structure
Structure

ecce takes its origin from the European Capital of Culture RUHR.2010, which for the first time integrated the cultural and creative industries as one pillar of its programme, acknowledging them as an integral part of cultural diversity. Since the end of 2011, ecce GmbH is an independent limited liability company based at the Dortmund U. Within the framework of the Sustainability Agreement of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia and the Ruhr Regional Association, ecce was commissioned to foster the cultural and creative economy in the Ruhr Metropolis. In this context, the institute strongly cooperates with Wirtschaftsförderung metropol Ruhr. As of 2014, the following institutions are partners of ecce GmbH: the Cities of Bochum, Dortmund, Essen and Gelsenkirchen, Wirtschaftsförderung metropol Ruhr, Wirtschaftsförderung Oberhausen as well as the Folkwang University of the Arts. Apart from the above-mentioned partners, the Ministry for Family, Children, Youth, Culture and Sport represents the State of North Rhine-Westphalia in ecce's Board of Trustees.